

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 176671
ORIGIN ACDA-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176671

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, MEX

SUBJECT: UNOFFICIAL REQUEST FOR DATA OF SECURITY OF
NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

REF: ;EXICO 7656

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTTEL, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SHOULD
BE USEFUL IN FORMULATING A RESPONSE FOR APPROPRIATE MEXICAN
OFFICIALS:

-- US LAW PROHIBITS THE USE OF MILITARY FORCES TO PROTECT
PRIVATE PROPERTY (WHICH WOULD INCLUDE LICENSED NUCLEAR
POWER REACTORS) EXCEPT IN EXTREME CASES ASSOCIATED WITH THE
BREAKDOWN OF STATE AUTHORITY. CONSEQUENTLY, US HAS NO
SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS OR INFORMATION AS REGARDS THIS ISSUE.
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 176671

HOWEVER, US IS GENERALLY AWARE OF ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY
OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS
ISSUE EITHER IN THE US OR MEXICO.

2. US REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF PRIVATELY
OWNED NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS ARE CONTAINED IN THE CODE OF
FEDERAL REGULATIONS TITLE 10 PART 73, SECTION 73.55. THESE

REGULATIONS GO BEYOND IAEA INFCIRC/225/REV.1 SINCE THEY ARE DESIGNED, IN ADDITION TO PROTECTING SNM FROM THEFT, TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY FROM ACTS OF RADIOLOGICAL SABOTAGE. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGULATIONS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- A SECURITY PLAN APPROVED BY THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION;
- A SYSTEM OF BARRIERS TO DELAY PENETRATION;
- ACCESS CONTROLS AND ENTRANCE SEARCHES;
- PERIMETER AND INTERIOR INTRUSION ALARMS WITH DUAL ALARM STATIONS;
- QUALIFICATION AND TRAINING OF GUARDS;
- A SECURITY ORGANIZATION AND A DEDICATED ON-SITE ARMED RESPONSE FORCE;
- ON-SITE AND OFF-SITE COMMUNICATIONS;
- SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS, PREFERABLY CCTV;

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 176671

- CLOSE LIAISON WITH LOCAL POLICE FORCES THAT CAN PROVIDE TIMELY ASSISTANCE;
- FORMAL CONTINGENCY PLANS; AND
- REGULAR INSPECTIONS BY NRC PERSONNEL.

3. EXCHANGES INVOLVING THE PHYSICAL SECURITY OF US-ORIGIN NUCLEAR MATERIALS ARE PRECISELY TYPE OF TECHNICAL EXCHANGES ENVISIONED BY USG IN PROPOSING INITIATION OF TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM.

4. US IS PREPARED TO MEET WITH GROUP OF MEXICAN AUTHORITIES IN US TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF HOW US REQUIREMENTS ARE IMPLEMENTED, INCLUDING DESCRIPTIONS OF SEARCH EQUIPMENT AND INTRUSION ALARM SYSTEMS, TYPES OF ARMAMENT AND TRAINING OF GUARDS, ASSESSMENT OF AND RESPONSE TO ALARMS OR INTRUSIONS AND COORDINATION WITH LOCAL POLICE. OR INTRUSIONS AND COORDINATION WITH LOCAL POLICE.

5. THE IAEA SPONSORED TEAM, COMPRISED OF US EXPERTS PROPOSED TO VISIT MEXICO TO DISCUSS PHYSICAL SECURITY OF

US-ORIGIN MATERIALS, IS PREPARED TO ADDRESS NUCLEAR
REACTOR PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND TO PROVIDE TO GOM SECURITY
EXPERTS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING FEDERAL REGULATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION
GUIDES AND TECHNICAL HANDBOOKS. (SEE STATE
77-186599.) CHRISTOPHER

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